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Speaker's Task Force on Youth Workforce Readiness Report Released

Madison... Rep. Bob Kulp (R-Stratford) and members of the Speaker's Task Force on Youth Workforce Readiness released their [final task force report](#) today. Rep. Rob Swearingen (R-Rhineland) served as a member on the task force. The report includes recommendations to help encourage Wisconsin youth to enter careers in the trades, manufacturing industry and technical fields.

"The state needs to expose our youth to options available through technical colleges that prepare them for potential careers in the manufacturing sector. The end goal is to keep our kids not only in the Badger State, but in our local communities. Many of these careers offer family sustaining jobs and competitive wages," said Rep. Swearingen.

The Task Force on Youth Workforce Readiness held five meetings, which included tours and input from stakeholders, since last September. The task force report includes several recommendations to Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester) and the members of the Wisconsin State Assembly.

- Modify the school report card to value technical education.
- Encourage high school entrepreneurship programs.
- One-time exceptions to levy limits for equipment purchases for technical education programs.
- Integrate math skills in technical education curricula and visa-versa.
- Modify DWD grant criteria and outcome goals.
- Implement a clearinghouse for technical education curricula.

The task force learned about the many barriers to student participation in technical education and training, which ranged from transportation to shortage of qualified instructors.

"I want to thank Representative Bob Kulp for chairing this bipartisan task force and for all his work preparing the final report," finished Rep. Swearingen.

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